



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Public Social Services

At its meeting held May 20, 2003, the Board took the following action:

47

The following item was called up for consideration:

The Director of Public Social Services' recommendation to instruct the Director to notify the State that the County will issue cash benefits for CalWORKs, General Relief, Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants and Refugee Cash Assistance participants through the State's Electronic Benefits Transfer System.

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

"The Federal and State governments have worked diligently toward creating a system that will allow Food Stamps, GAIN/CalWORKs, and General Relief program participants to access their benefits through the use of Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT). Among the many reasons for utilizing EBT, proponents cite increased efficiency, expeditious release of benefits, improved fraud prevention and very importantly the enhanced exposure of participants to mainstream electronic financial markets.

"In light of the overwhelming benefits, I fully support adoption of EBT for cash benefits in the County of Los Angeles. However, we must accomplish this important task in a prudent and responsible manner. Program participants will not be well served if there is an insufficient amount of cash available in their immediate residential area on their designated pick up date."

(Continued on Page 2)

47 (Continued)

Bryce Yokomizo, Director of Public Social Services, Ed Marzec and John Nickerson representing Continental Currency Services, Kathryn Sheffield representing Neighborhood Legal Services, Toby Rothschild representing Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, and Haleemah Henderson addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Director of Public Social Services' attached recommendation was adopted as amended to be contingent on 100% cash access in all zip codes with a population of greater than 400 program participants at the time of Countywide rollout.

9052003-47

Attachment

Copies distributed:

- Each Supervisor
- Chief Administrative Officer
- County Counsel